



About This Area:

J. N. "Turkey" Kearns Memorial Conservation Area is in Johnson and Pettis counties, 8.5 miles south of Knob Noster on Highway D, then two miles east on County Road 600.

Turkey Kearns, who delighted many people with his humor and knowledge of local history, lived on this land in harmony with its natural beauty. In 1976, he donated 1,479 acres to the Conservation Department, with the wish that the bounty of wildlife his ancestors spoke of when they first settled here be restored and preserved for future generations.

The Department purchased an additional 195 acres, bringing the area to its present size of 1,674 acres.

The area features a great variety of habitat types, including rolling, wooded hills, bottomlands, crop fields and open, native grass fields. The area contains several small ponds, a 2-acre pond, and two lakes, 25 and 9 acres in size. Muddy Creek crosses the northwest corner of the area.

Management of the area focuses on providing habitat for upland wildlife species, including deer, turkey, rabbits, squirrels, doves and songbirds.

Nearby Department Areas:

W. R. Kearns Memorial C. A.
Ralph and Martha Perry Memorial C. A.
Friendly Prairie C. A.
Grandfather Prairie C. A.
Hazel Hill C. A.

For local information, contact:

Department of Conservation
2000 S. Limit
Sedalia, MO 65301
660-530-5500

Your comments and suggestions regarding area facilities and management are welcome.

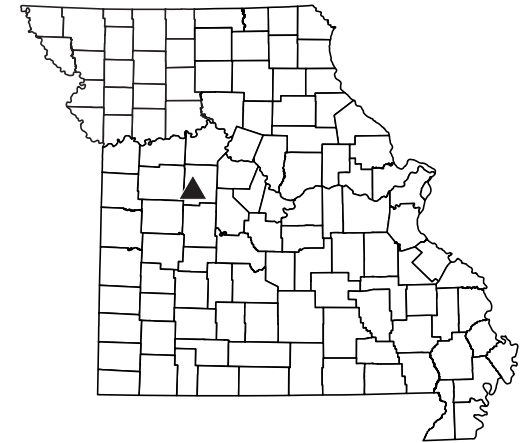


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(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

J.N. "Turkey" Kearns Memorial

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Fishing – Hunting – Hiking
– Wildlife Viewing – Outdoor Photography –
Picnicking – Frogging

Rules and Regulations

Conservation areas are closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized camping, fishing, and hunting activities.

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- No ATV's
- Motor vehicles are restricted to authorized roadways and parking areas
- Bicycles allowed on designated service roads year-round. Service roads can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being used for hunting or training.
- No collecting artifacts or any other activity that damages or disturbs historical or archeological features.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal consumption.
- Horseback riding is permitted only on roads open to vehicles or by special use permit.
- No camping permitted.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Trail and field cameras are prohibited.

Hunting

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations, except as further restricted by the following regulations:

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number, of the owner and be removed from the area before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Waterfowl blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Trapping furbearers allowed only by special use permit.



Fishing

Fishing and frogging are permitted under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- On impounded waters, daily and possession limits are two black bass, four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish), and 30 crappie. All other fish, statewide limits, but may not exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- On impounded waters, all black bass less than 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all lakes and ponds, excepted as otherwise provided in this chapter.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written permission of the Conservation Department.

